

WM  
CTGWEST MIDLANDS CHARITABLE  
TRUSTS GROUP

networking    broadening debate    promoting good practice

**Proposed Programme 2011****CONSULTATION MEETING WITH MEMBERS ON THE FUTURE PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES**

A draft business plan been developed by the Executive Committee. To further develop the programme of events, the Executive Committee are arranging a lunch meeting on 11th May to get feedback on a future programme of events.. on 11th May 2011 Anthony Collins Solicitors 134 Edmund Street, Birmingham B3 2ES 12.30pm - 2pm

**SUPPORTING GROUPS IN CRISIS**

A talk by Amanda Tincknell, Director, Cranfield Trust drawing upon their experience of supporting 200 voluntary organisations a year. on 29th June 2011 Harborne Parish Lands Charity, 109 Court Oak Road, Birmingham B17 9AA

**REGIONAL INFORMATION EXCHANGE SESSION**

An opportunity to gather and exchange information and intelligence on what is happening in the region on supporting the work of the voluntary and community sector.. Chatham House Rules on 26th July 2011 Anthony Collins Solicitors, 134 Edmund Street, Birmingham Medical Institute, 36 Harborne Road, B3 2UB 12.15pm - 1.15pm

**AUTUMN LUNCH**

Stuart Etherington, Director, NCVO. Talk on the development of the voluntary sector in an era of austerity. in October 2011 Details and date to be confirmed. Woodbrooke College, Bristol Road, B29 12.30pm

**Public Sector Cuts and its impact on the Third Sector**

A Panel Discussion Meeting with representatives from the voluntary and community sector was held on the 28th February 2011 looking at the impact of public sector cuts on the Third Sector. Sharon Palmer, CEO, Regional Action West Midlands (RAWM), Brian Carr, CE, Birmingham Voluntary Service Council (BVSC) and Paul Tolley, CE

Warwickshire Voluntary and Community Action (WVCA) provided an insight into the impact of the cuts facing the sector in their locality. As local authorities strive to protect their own services from public sector cuts, many local authorities have begun to cut their support to the voluntary and community sector. The picture across the region is varied and the sector faces a difficult time over the next 2-3 years. Sharon spoke about the changing relationship between the state and the voluntary and community sector and the continuing difference between those that have and those that do not. She felt there is as paradox between the Coalition's plans for the Big Society with such painful cuts to resources, and the capacity for the sector to remain innovative, resilient and responsive to new and changing needs.. Brian spoke about the evidence gathered by BVSC on not enough public sector money being spent on preventative work with those most disadvantaged. The size of the Birmingham City Council cuts will lead to at 13% of its workforce needing to be reduced over 3 years and the out-phasing of Voluntary and Community Sector budgets. BVSC face a reduction in their overall funding over the next year of 50% . Such services as networking, training and funding information to voluntary and community groups on the frontline will be affected. Paul spoke about the infra-structure changes in Warwickshire over the last 3 years and the merger of 4 CVS and 2 volunteer centres. For his patch, the pace of the cuts will mean no opportunity for innovation and being creative in meeting the needs of those most vulnerable. The way the cuts are being taken forward is leading to competition between voluntary groups and territorialism. The move by the public sector to commission more and do less or no grant giving will undermine smaller community groups and a responsive approach to new and emerging needs. Copy of presentations on [www.wmctg.org.uk](http://www.wmctg.org.uk)

**Voluntary Groups in Crisis - Talk by Cranfield Trust**

Following a period of unprecedented investment in the voluntary sector by the state. The picture of public sector cuts to the voluntary sector across the UK is varied. Many organisations are forecasting increased demand for their services. In such a climate how well equipped is the voluntary sector to survive this period of turbulence and uncertainty? **The Cranfield Trust will talk on 29th June 2011** about its experience of providing management consultancy to over 200 charitable groups in this difficult period.

**Guides to Funding Campaigning**  
[www.NCVO.org.uk](http://www.NCVO.org.uk)

**The Big Society Challenge publication**  
[www.keystonetrust.org.uk/communities/index.php?page=21](http://www.keystonetrust.org.uk/communities/index.php?page=21)

**Funding the Future, Funding Commission of the NCVO**  
[www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/fundingcommission](http://www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/fundingcommission)

**Intelligence on the impact of public sector cuts**  
<http://voluntarysectorcuts.org.uk/about/>

## NEWS

### WMCTG Annual Business Meeting

The ABM and supper was held on the 23rd March 2011 at the Birmingham Medical Institute. Nearly half of our members attended the event and heard about the year's developments and activities in the co-chairmen's annual report, which is available on the website. Three speakers: Ian Williamson and Samson Hailu, Concern Universal and Mark Harland, Walsall Streets Team, representing two very different charities spoke about their work and the benefits and challenges of receiving charitable trust funding. All three were passionate about their work and the positive impact it was having on those they worked with. There was a lively discussion following both presentations. Copies of the Annual Report 2010 and accounts are available on the website [www.wmctg.org.uk](http://www.wmctg.org.uk)

### WMCTG Business Plan

The Executive Committee have now produced a business plan that sets out the development of the organisation for the next three years. The mission of the group is to *"To strengthen, innovate and support funders to better meet the needs of people and communities in the West Midlands"*. The organisation will look to put on activities that will support members to better understand the climate they are operating in and inform their grant giving priorities and practices. The development of the website is seen as critical to the marketing and communicating with members and the wider public and to this end the website will be further developed. We will also look to develop mutually beneficial partnerships or joint working with other membership based organisations and institutions to improve information and intelligence services to our members. The final version of the business plan will be posted on the members only section of the website.

### What's in a name?

At the Annual Business Meeting, the Executive Committee recommended a change in the name of the organisation from West Midlands Charitable Trusts Group to **Charitable Trusts, West Midlands**. Future marketing material, the website and stationery will reflect this change in name.

### Trust Member Profile: Lloyds TSB Foundation



Peter Cunnison

Peter Cunnison is the West Midlands Grants Manager for Lloyds TSB Foundation. Lloyds TSB Foundation is one of the UK's leading independent grant-makers and funds small and medium-sized charities working at the heart of communities to tackle disadvantage across England and Wales. The average Community Programme grant in 2010 was £25,000 but the grant awarded might be less or more depending on your charity's circumstances. The Foundation is particularly interested to hear from charities in that support people currently in or in danger of being in the criminal justice system, the elderly, homeless or people with addictions. If you are interested in learning more, please visit the Foundation's website at [www.lloydstsbfoundations.org.uk](http://www.lloydstsbfoundations.org.uk).

## THE WEST MIDLANDS CHARITABLE TRUSTS GROUP NEW MEMBERS JOINING IN 2011



## THE WEST MIDLANDS CHARITABLE TRUSTS GROUP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2010/11

CHAIRMAN  
TBC

DEPUTY CHAIRS  
Donald Payne

Pauline Roche

TREASURER  
Lynda Bending

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Carolyn Bettis

Melinda Connelly

Barbara Welford

Debbie Pippard

Katherine Rees

Peter Cunnison

Delma Harrison

David Owen

Yvonne Palmer

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## West Midlands Charitable Trusts Group

The executive committee on behalf of its members has been keen to look at ways to increase the membership and ensure that the needs of members are reflected in future events and activities. A rolling development plan for the Group for 2010 has been produced and is available from the Secretary, or can be downloaded from the Group's website. We are keen to hear from members about how the Group can continue to develop to meet their needs, so please contact either Dipali Secretary to the Group on [dipali.chandra@virginmedia.com](mailto:dipali.chandra@virginmedia.com)

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